

1
2 **ABSTRACT**

3 An implementation is described herein, which facilitates a fast channel
4 change by receiving and decoding a unicast acquisition media stream that
5 corresponds to a soon-to-be-requested target multicast media stream. It does this
6 before requesting the target multicast media stream of the new channel. Once the
7 transmission of the unicast stream is caught up with the multicast stream, this
8 implementation splices from the unicast acquisition stream to the target multicast
9 media stream. This abstract itself is not intended to limit the scope of this patent.
10 The scope of the present invention is pointed out in the appending claims.